

## A. AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Please add new Claims 20 and 21 and amend the claims as indicated hereinafter.

1 1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for transforming character strings that are  
2 contained in a computer program, the method comprising the computer-implemented  
3 steps of:  
4 automatically parsing a computer program to identify identifying a hard coded string  
5 that is contained in the computer program;  
6 replacing the hard coded string contained in the computer program with a macro that  
7 is uniquely associated with the hard coded string;  
8 creating and storing an entry in a mapping of macros to strings, an entry that defines  
9 an association of between the macro and the hard coded string; and  
10 referencing the mapping in a program element that is associated with the computer  
11 program.

1 2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the step of  
2 automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard coded string includes:  
3 identifying a string further comprises the steps of:  
4 identifying one or more computer programs that contain one or more hard coded  
5 strings; and  
6 automatically parsing at least one of the one or more of the computer programs to  
7 identify the one or more hard coded strings while copying instructions from at  
8 least one of the one or more of the computer programs to an output.

1 3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the step of  
2 automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard coded string that is  
3 contained in the computer program includes automatically parsing a computer

4 program to identify a hard coded string that is both contained in the computer  
5 program and does not already have a corresponding macro uniquely associated with  
6 the hard coded string. identifying a string further includes the steps of:  
7 parsing a computer program to locate hard coded strings contained therein; and  
8 in response to locating a string, determining whether a macro was previously  
9 generated for the string; and generating a corresponding macro uniquely  
10 associated with the string only when a macro was not previously generated.

1 4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising  
2 the computer-implemented steps of:  
3 receiving a suggested macro for the identified hard coded string, and  
4 generating the macro to replace the hard coded string contained in the computer  
5 program based upon the suggested macro. wherein the step of identifying a  
6 string further includes the steps of receiving a suggested macro string for the  
7 identified string of characters, and wherein the step of replacing the string of  
8 characters with a unique macro string includes the step of generating the  
9 unique macro string based on the suggested macro string that is received.

1 5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising  
2 the computer-implemented step of compiling the computer program to generate an  
3 executable, including substituting in the executable the hard coded string ~~in the~~  
4 ~~executable~~ for each instance of the ~~unique macro string~~ in the computer program.

1 6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising  
2 the computer-implemented steps of:

3 parsing a the computer program to locate a second hard coded ~~strings~~ string contained  
4 ~~therein;~~ therein, wherein the second hard coded string is different than the  
5 hard coded string;  
6 ~~creating and storing a mapping of macros to strings characters;~~  
7 in response to locating a the second hard coded string contained in the computer  
8 program, determining whether a macro was previously generated for the  
9 second hard coded string by searching the mapping; and  
10 generating a ~~corresponding second~~ macro uniquely associated with the second hard  
11 coded string only when a macro was not previously generated for the second  
12 hard coded string.

1 7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for transforming hard coded character strings  
2 that are contained in a computer program, the method comprising the computer-  
3 implemented steps of:  
4 identifying a hard coded string that is contained in the computer program;  
5 replacing the hard coded string in the computer program with a macro that is uniquely  
6 associated with the hard coded string;  
7 creating and storing in a macro file a macro definition ~~in a macro file~~ that defines an  
8 association ~~of~~ between the macro and the hard coded string; and  
9 referencing the macro definition in a ~~program element that is associated with the~~  
10 computer program using a compiler directive that causes a compiler to include  
11 the macro file during compilation of the computer program.

1 8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more  
2 sequences of instructions for transforming character strings that are contained in a  
3 unit of code, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one  
4 or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform:

5 automatically parsing a computer program to identify ~~identifying a~~ hard coded string  
6 that is contained in the computer program;  
7 replacing the hard coded string contained in the computer program with a macro that  
8 is uniquely associated with the hard coded string;  
9 creating and storing ~~an entry~~ in a mapping of macros to strings, an entry that defines  
10 an association ~~of between~~ the macro and the hard coded string; and  
11 referencing the mapping in a program element that is associated with the computer  
12 program.

A  
9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,  
2 wherein the step of  
3 automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard coded string includes:  
4 ~~identifying a string further comprises the steps of:~~  
5 identifying one or more computer programs that contain one or more hard coded  
6 strings; and  
7 automatically parsing at least one of the one or more of the computer programs to  
8 identify the one or more hard coded strings while copying instructions from at  
9 least one of the one or more of the computer programs to an output.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,  
2 wherein the step of automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard  
3 coded string that is contained in the computer program includes automatically parsing  
4 a computer program to identify a hard coded string that is both contained in the  
5 computer program and does not already have a corresponding macro uniquely  
6 associated with the hard coded string. ~~identifying a string further includes the steps of:~~  
7 ~~parsing a computer program to locate hard coded strings contained therein; and~~

8 in response to locating a string, determining whether a macro was previously  
9 generated for the string; and generating a corresponding macro uniquely  
10 associated with the string only when a macro was not previously generated.

1 11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,  
2 further comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

3 receiving a suggested macro for the identified hard coded string, and

4 generating the macro to replace the hard coded string contained in the computer

5 program based upon the suggested macro, wherein the step of identifying a

6 string further includes the steps of receiving a suggested macro string for the

7 identified string of characters, and wherein the step of replacing the string of

8 characters with a unique macro string includes the step of generating the

9 unique macro string based on the suggested macro string that is received.

1 12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,  
2 further comprising the computer-implemented step of compiling the computer  
3 program to generate an executable, including substituting in the executable the hard  
4 coded string in the executable for each instance of the unique macro string in the  
5 computer program.

1 13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,  
2 further comprising the computer-implemented steps of:  
3 parsing a the computer program to locate a second hard coded strings string contained  
4 therein; therein, wherein the second hard coded string is different than the  
5 hard coded string;  
6 creating and storing a mapping of macros to strings characters;

7 in response to locating a the second hard coded string contained in the computer  
8 program, determining whether a macro was previously generated for the  
9 second hard coded string by searching the mapping; and  
10 generating a ~~corresponding second~~ macro uniquely associated with the second hard  
11 coded string only when a macro was not previously generated for the second  
12 hard coded string.

- A.  
S  
B
- 1 14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer system for transforming character strings  
2 that are contained in a ~~a memory~~; memory, the computer system comprising:  
3 one or more processors coupled to the memory;  
4 a conversion mechanism;  
5 a stored mapping that defines one or more associations ~~of~~ between macros and  
6 strings;  
7 one or more sequences computer instructions contained in the memory and associated  
8 with the conversion mechanism which, when executed by the one or more  
9 processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:  
10 automatically parsing a computer program to identify ~~identifying~~ a hard coded  
11 string that is contained in the computer program;  
12 replacing the hard coded string contained in the computer program with a  
13 macro that is uniquely associated with the hard coded string;  
14 creating and storing ~~an entry~~ in the mapping of macros to string, an entry that  
15 defines an association between the macro and the hard coded string;  
16 ~~using the macro and the string;~~ and  
17 referencing the mapping in a program element that is associated with the  
18 computer program.

1 15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 14, wherein  
2 the step of automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard coded string  
3 includes: identifying a string further comprises the steps of:  
4 identifying one or more computer programs that contain one or more hard coded  
5 strings; and  
6 automatically parsing at least one of the one or more of the computer programs to  
7 identify the one or more hard coded strings while copying instructions from at  
8 least one of the one or more of the computer programs to an output.

1 16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 14, wherein  
2 the step of automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard coded string  
3 that is contained in the computer program includes automatically parsing a computer  
4 program to identify a hard coded string that is both contained in the computer  
5 program and does not already have a corresponding macro uniquely associated with  
6 the hard coded string. identifying a string further includes the steps of:  
7 parsing a computer program to locate hard coded strings contained therein; and  
8 in response to locating a string, determining whether a macro was previously  
9 generated for the string; and generating a corresponding macro uniquely  
10 associated with the string only when a macro was not previously generated.

1 17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 14, further  
2 comprising the computer-implemented steps of:  
3 receiving a suggested macro for the identified hard coded string, and  
4 generating the macro to replace the hard coded string contained in the computer  
5 program based upon the suggested macro. wherein the step of identifying a  
6 string further includes the steps of receiving a suggested macro string for the

7 identified string of characters, and wherein the step of replacing the string of  
8 characters with a unique macro string includes the step of generating the  
9 unique macro string based on the suggested macro string that is received.

1 18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 14, further  
2 comprising the computer-implemented step of compiling the computer program to  
3 generate an executable, including substituting in the executable the hard coded string  
4 ~~in the executable~~ for each instance of the ~~unique macro string~~ in the computer  
5 program.

1 19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 14, further  
2 comprising the computer-implemented steps of:  
3 parsing a the computer program to locate a second hard coded ~~strings~~ string contained  
4 ~~therein; therein, wherein the second hard coded string is different than the~~  
5 hard coded string;  
6 ~~creating and storing a mapping of macros to strings characters;~~  
7 in response to locating a the second hard coded string contained in the computer  
8 program, determining whether a macro was previously generated for the  
9 second hard coded string by searching the mapping; and  
10 generating a ~~corresponding~~ second macro uniquely associated with the second hard  
11 coded string only when a macro was not previously generated for the second  
12 hard coded string.

1 20. (NEW) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions  
2 for transforming hard coded character strings that are contained in a computer  
3 program, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or  
4 more processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of:



5 identifying a hard coded string that is contained in the computer program;  
6 replacing the hard coded string in the computer program with a macro that is uniquely  
7 associated with the hard coded string;  
8 creating and storing in a macro file a macro definition that defines an association of  
9 between the macro and the hard coded string; and  
10 referencing the macro definition in the computer program using a compiler directive  
11 that causes a compiler to include the macro file during compilation of the  
12 computer program.

21. (NEW) An apparatus for transforming hard coded character strings that are contained  
in a computer program, the apparatus comprising a memory carrying one or more  
sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors causes the  
one or more processors to perform the steps of:  
identifying a hard coded string that is contained in the computer program;  
replacing the hard coded string in the computer program with a macro that is uniquely  
associated with the hard coded string;  
creating and storing in a macro file a macro definition that defines an association of  
between the macro and the hard coded string; and  
referencing the macro definition in the computer program using a compiler directive  
that causes a compiler to include the macro file during compilation of the  
computer program.